

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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R 200606Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7324
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL KARACHI
USIA WASHDC

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USIA FOR IOP, IPS, INA AND IOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PK, CE, US

SUBJ: PAKISTANTI CHARGES OF U.S. INTERFERENCE PUBLISHED IN
SRI LANKA

1. SUMMARY: PAKISTAN EMBASSY HAS ALMOST CERTAINLY BEEN SOURCE
OF A RATHER VICIOUS ATTACK ON US AND ITS ALLEGED CONSPIRACY
TO OVERTHROW BHUTTO GOVERNMENT, WHICH APPEARED MAY 20 IN
ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY MIRROR, BUT NOT AS YET IN VERNACULAR
PRESS. A RESUME OF THE ARTICLE FOLLOWS. END SUMMARY.

2. ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY MIRROR OF MAY 20 PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE
ENTITLED "THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST PAKISTAN" WITH THE BY-LINE
ARTHUR B. NEWMAN. THE PIECE WAS SUB-TITLED "LETTER FROM
PAKISTAN" AND WAS ATTRIBUTED TO PAKISTAN FEATURE SERVICE. IT
WAS ALMOST CERTAINLY PLACED BY THE PAKISTAN EMBASSY.

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3. ARTICLE IS VERY SPECIFIC IN CHARGES AGAINST US, STARTING
WITH ALLEGED HISTORY OF US INVOLVEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA, CHILE,
ANGOLA, THAILAND, INDIA. ONE HAD EXPECTED BETTER OF THE NEW
CARTER ADMINISTRATION, WHEN THERE CAME BHUTTO'S REVELATION,
EVIDENCE FOR WHICH IS OVERWHELMING. OPPOSITION IN PAKISTAN
IS WELL-FINANCED, FAMILIES OF THOSE ARRESTED WELL CARED

FOR, PUBLICITY MACHINE EXTENSIVE AND WELL OILED, NO SIGNS ORGANIZATION IS FLAGGING. DOLLAR HAS DROPPED TO 6-7 RUPEES IN OPEN MARKET. WASHINGTON POST CITED USG FAILURE TO SHIP TEAR GAS AS SIGN OF HELP FOR OPPOSITION.

4. IT IS CLEAR THAT BHUTTO HAD CONCLUSIVE PROOF OF CHARGES. FRIENDSHIP FOR US HAD BEEN ONE OF MAIN PILLARS OF HIS POLICY. UNLIKE MANY WORLD STATEMEN, HE SELDOM LOST PATIENCE WITH WASHINGTON, BUT WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO OFFER ASSURANCES OF HIS FRIENDSHIP. HE STAYED IN CEN TO DESPITE NON-ALIGNED WORLD'S CRITICIS.

5. REASONS FOR SUCH FOOLISH INTERFERENCE BY US IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF A COUNTRY ALWAYS ITS FRIEND, AS CITED BY BHUTTO, WERE: DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAD ALWAYS BEEN BITTER AT HIS POSITION ON VIETNAM WAR; PAKISTAN'S MILITANT SOLIDARITY WITH ARAB WORLD; CONVENING OF ISLAMIC SUMMIT IN LAHORE; BHUTTO'S EFFORTS TO HOLD THIRD WORLD SUMMIT DID NOT SEEM TO FIT IN WITH AMERICAN DESIGN; BHUTTO'S SUGGESTION OF WILLINGNESS TO OFFER GOOD OFFICES OVER CYPRUS AND KOREAN REUNIFICATION. BASICALLY, HOWEVER, IT WAS MIDDLE EAST THAT RANKLED MOST. THEN THERE WAS PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE, ABOUT WHICH NEW ADMINISTRATION HAS GNAWING OBSESSION.

6. CONSIDERING DEGREE OF ITS TWO FIXATIONS (MIDDLE EAST AND NUCLEAR), NOT SURPRISING THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION SHOULD HAVE FORGOTTEN ALL ITS MORAL POSTURING AND DECIDED TO TAKE HAND AT TOPPLING GOVERNMENT THAT WAS PROVING BIT TIRESOME FOR A SENSITIVE REGION. THUS NO DOUBT BHUTTO'S STARTLING DISCLOSURES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARE ALL SUBSTANTIALLY TRUE. STATE DEPARTMENT HAS OF COURSE DENIED THEM, AS IT HAS DENIED EVERY OTHER CHARGE EVERYWHERE ELSE. CARTER'S FIRST RESORT TO OLDER TACTICS HAS FAILED IN PAKISTAN, BUT ALMOST SUCCEEDED. A LESSER MAN THAN BHUTTO MIGHT WELL HAVE BEEN ENTRAPPED. SO THERE IS A LESSON FOR ALL. THEY SHOULD NOT YET BE MISLED BY SHEEP'S CLOTHING.

7. ARTICLE HAS NOT AS YET APPEARED IN ANY OF VERNACULAR PAPERS. THIS IS THE FIRST "LETTER FROM PAKISTAN" OR ARTICLE ATTRIBUTED TO PAKISTAN FEATURE SERVICE WE HAVE NOTED IN SRI LANKAN PRESS. SUCH ALLEGATIONS, COMING ON EVE OF WHAT PROMISES TO BE A HIGHLY VOCAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN, CAN HARDLY HELP BUT SERVE AS AN INCITEMENT TO SIMILAR WILD ANTI-US CHARGES FROM LOCAL LEFT, AS CAMPAIGN PROCEEDS.
REED

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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